

FORM PTO 1390
(REV. 11-2000)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
124-00108

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

10/031628

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/GB00/02483INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
26 June 2000PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
15 July 1999TITLE OF INVENTION
STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEMAPPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US
Philip T. BLENKINSOP

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☐ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.
4. ☐ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☒ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ A English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11 to 20 below concern other document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
15. ☐ A substitute specification.
16. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
17. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821-1.825.
18. ☐ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
19. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
20. ☒ Other items or information:
 - ☐ Applicant claims small entity status.
 - ☒ Supplement to Transmittal Letter.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/031628		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/GB00/02483		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 124-00108	
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21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO..... \$ 1,040.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO..... \$ 890.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$ 740.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4).. \$ 710.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)..... \$ 100.00 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = \$ 890.00					
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 C.F.R. 1.491(3)).				+130.00	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total Claims	10 - 20 =		x \$ 18.00		
Independent Claims	1 - 3 =		x \$ 84.00		
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$280.00		
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$1,020.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				-	
SUBTOTAL =				\$1,020.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English Translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 C.F.R. 1.492(f)).				+	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$1,020.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 C.F.R. 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 C.F.R. 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				+	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$1,020.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	
				Charged:	

a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 1,020.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.

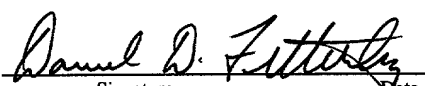
b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

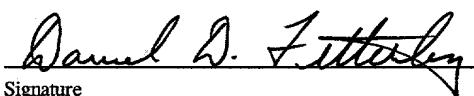
c. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01.2000. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

d. ☐ Fees are to be charged to a credit card. **WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
 ANDRUS, SCALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP
 100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
 Phone: (414) 271-7590
 Fax: (414) 271-5770


 Signature Date 1/15/02
 Daniel D. Fetterley 20,323
 Name Reg. No.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/031628	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/GB00/02483	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 124-00108
CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL		
<p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as EXPRESS MAIL-POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE, in an envelope addressed to: BOX PCT, COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231 on the <u>15th</u> day of January, 2002. Express Mail Label <u>EL812732676US</u>.</p>		
Daniel D. Fetterley	20,323	
Name	Reg. No.	
	<u>1/15/02</u>	
Signature	Date	

PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of)	Group Art Unit:
)	
PHILIP T. BLENKINSOP)	Examiner:
)	
Int'l. Appln. No. PCT/GB00/02483)	STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL
)	SYSTEM
Int'l. Filing Date: 26 June 2000)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
January 15, 2002

Box PCT Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is requested that U.S. national stage examination be carried out on the amended claims dated June 4, 2001. Prior to computing the filing fee in this application, kindly amend the above identified application, as follows. The filing fee is to be computed on the amended claims.

In the Abstract:

A clean copy of the Abstract as published is attached. No changes to the Abstract have been made.

In the Specification:

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, between the title and the first line of text as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is the U.S. national stage application of International Application PCT/GB00/02483, filed June 26, 2000, which international application was published on January 25, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/05687. The International Application claims priority of European Patent Application 99305619.1, filed

July 15, 1999.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 22, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 10, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Before the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 21, please insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (amended) A storage and retrieval system comprising:
at least one storage tray comprising plural storage holes;
at least one gas supply port; and
a gas supply manifold for supplying, in use, pressurised gas to the at least

one gas supply port; wherein

the tray is arranged such that it can be moved with respect to the manifold in order to align a selected storage hole in the tray with the port such that, in use, pressurised gas can be applied to the selected hole via the port in order to allow controlled movement of a container storage in the selected hole to a position in which it can be retrieved from the tray.

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the gas supply port is configured such that the pressurised gas raises the container in use.

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein each hole has retaining member for retaining a container therein.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. (amended) A system according to claim 1, in which there are provided plural trays, one arranged above another.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (amended) A system according to claim 1, in which the manifold has plural ports formed therein.

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. A system according to claim 1, in which the trays are circular in shape.

Claim 8 has been amended as follows:

8. A system according to claim 1, in which the trays are rotatable with respect to the manifold.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

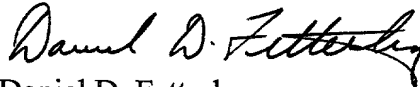
9. A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for controlling, in use, the pressure of gas supplied through the manifold in order to control the velocity or position of a selected container during retrieval and/or insertion.

Please add the following claim:

10. A system according to claim 2, wherein each hole has retaining member for retaining a container therein.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP



Daniel D. Fetterley
(Reg. No. 20,323)

100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(414) 271-7590
Atty. Docket No. 124-00108 (C.12080-116)

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

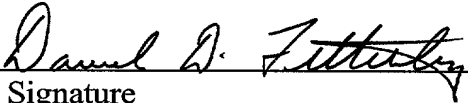
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as EXPRESS MAIL - POST OFFICE ADDRESSEE, in an envelope addressed to: Box PCT Application, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the 15th day of January, 2002. The Express Label is EL812732676US.

Daniel D. Fetterley

20,323

Name

Reg. No.



Signature

1/15/02

Date

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Attorney Docket No. 124-00108

In the Specification:

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, between the title and the first line of text as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is the U.S. national stage application of International Application PCT/GB00/02483, filed June 26, 2000, which international application was published on January 25, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/05687. The International Application claims priority of European Patent Application 99305619.1, filed July 15, 1999.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 22 of page 1 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 2 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Before the paragraph beginning at line 21 of page 2 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (amended) A storage and retrieval system comprising:
at least one storage tray comprising plural storage holes;
at least one gas supply port; and
a gas supply manifold for supplying, in use, pressurised gas to the at least one

5 gas supply port; wherein

the tray is arranged such that it is can be moved with respect to the manifold in order to align a selected storage hole in the tray with the port such that, in use, pressurised gas can be applied to the selected hole via the port in order to allow controlled movement of a container storage in the selected hole to a position in which it can be retrieved from the tray.

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the gas supply ~~port~~ is configured such that the pressurised gas raises the container in use.

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (amended) A system according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein each hole has retaining member for retaining a container therein.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. (amended) A system according to claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~, in which there are provided plural trays, one arranged above another.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (amended) A system according to claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~, in which the manifold has plural ports formed therein.

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. A system according to claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~, in which the trays are circular in shape.

Claim 8 has been amended as follows:

8. A system according to claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~, in which the trays are rotatable with respect to the manifold.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. A system according to claim 1~~any preceding claim~~, further comprising means for controlling, in use, the pressure of gas supplied through the manifold in order to control the velocity or position of a selected container during retrieval and/or insertion.

STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

5 This invention relates to a storage and retrieval system.

Storage and retrieval systems have, of course, been known for many years. In recent years there have been many attempts to alternate such systems in order to improve accuracy of storage, ensure stock records are accurate, and also to enable the employment of storage and retrieval systems as part of a larger automated process.

Such systems can be unwieldy, however. They tend to take up a considerable amount of space, require complex handling machinery, and can take a considerable amount of time to select and retrieve the necessary item. Two specific known systems are discussed in more detail below.

The present invention seeks to overcome some of the problems associated with prior art arrangements by providing a system which is extremely simple, requires minimal additional area to be provided for retrieval, and has speedy access to all of the stored items.

According to the present invention there is provided a storage and retrieval system comprising:

at least one storage tray comprising plural storage holes; and

a gas supply manifold for supplying, in use, pressurised gas to at least one gas supply port; wherein

the tray can be moved with respect to the manifold in order to align a selected storage hole in the tray with the port such that, in use, pressurised gas can be applied to the selected hole via the port in order to allow controlled movement of container stored in the selected hole to a position in which it can be retrieved from the tray.

The pressurised gas may raise the container.

Each hole may have a retaining member for retaining a container therein.

There may be provided plural trays, one arranged above another. In this case, each tray may have at least one through port therein in order to allow a container to pass through the tray when the through port is aligned with a manifold port.

The manifold may have plural ports formed therein.

The trays may be circular in shape.

The trays may be rotatable with respect to the manifold.

An example of the present invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figs. 1 and 2 are schematic side views of two prior art storage and retrieval arrangements;

Fig. 3 is a schematic side view of an example of the present invention;

Fig. 4 is a side perspective and plan view of the example of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 5 is a schematic side view of an example of the present invention during operation.

Figs. 1 and 2 show examples of known storage and retrieval systems. In both cases containers 7 are stored in a regular matrix on trays 1 which are arranged vertically. In the arrangement of Fig. 1 sufficient space is left between each tray 1 in order to enable the lifting and removal of a container 7 by a retrieval arm 8. Such an arrangement requires a number of drive mechanisms to ensure adequate movement of the arm 8, and has reduced storage density because of the need to provide a clearance space for access by the arm 8 to individual containers 7.

Fig. 2 shows a second example in which trays 1 are stacked without any clearance space, and in which individual trays 1 can be drawn out of alignment with the other trays and an arm 8 employed to remove a selected container 7. Whilst this prior art device improves storage density, it still requires a complex retrieval drive mechanism, with the added complexity of a mechanism for

moving individual trays 1. Because each tray 1 has a high mass, it can be extremely costly to provide a mechanism which moves the trays at high speed or, alternatively, the retrieval process can be slow. A further disadvantage is that a considerable amount of floor space is needed to accommodate the storage mechanism in view of the need to draw individual trays 1 out from the system.

Fig. 3 is a side cross-sectional view of an example of the present invention. Components corresponding to those shown in Figs. 1 and 2 are numbered identically. In this example trays 1 have a plurality of storage holes 2, each arranged to accept, in use, a container 7. Fig. 4 shows how the holes 2 are arranged circumferentially within an individual tray 1. The trays 1 are arranged so that they can rotate around a single axis 3. Each of the storage hole 2 has a container retaining member 4 associated therewith, the purpose of which will be described below. Each tray 1 also has at least one through port 5 which has a similar cross-sectional area to the holes 2, but which has no retaining member 4. The trays 1 are arranged such that the through ports 5 on each tray 1 can be aligned and also placed in alignment with a port 6 in a gas manifold positioned, in this example, below the trays 1. In use, the port 6 supplies pressurised gas, in most applications air, up through the through ports 5. In most cases there will be a plurality of ports 6, the number of which corresponds to the number of through ports 5 provided in each tray 1.

The system of the invention can be arranged either to retrieve and store single containers or, alternatively, to remove a group of containers quickly without any particular need for a fixed sequence in which they are retrieved.

Fig. 5 shows the sequence of events when retrieving a single container. In the example of Fig. 5 slidable, rather than rotatable, trays 1 are shown, although the operation of both is very similar. In order to retrieve a container 7, the tray 1 containing the appropriate

container 7 is moved to a position in which the desired container 7 is above port 6. All the other trays 1 are arranged such that their appropriate through port 5 is also in alignment with port 6. Pressurised gas is then applied through the port 6 and the container 7 is lifted from the retaining member 4 until it is proud of the top tray 1 in the system and in a position for retrieval. The tray containing the container can then be moved such that its through port 5 is in alignment once more with the port 6. Plural containers 7 may be obtained at any one time by the provision of plural through ports 5 in each tray 1 and the alignment of plural containers 7 above respective gas supply port 6, followed by the application of pressurised gas to all sets of through ports 5 in a single operation.

It will be appreciated that the system can be operated without support members 4 and with appropriate control of the supply of pressurised gas 6 to prevent a container falling downward through the aligned through ports 5 when it is in a position to be retrieved. Indeed, without the employment of such retaining members 4 and with appropriate control of the pressurised gas supply it is possible for containers to be dropped downward and retrieved from the base of the system. The gas supply can also be provided to control the raising and lowering rate of a particular container 7 to minimise any impact forces on the container 7.

The arrangement of the present invention enables a very simple handling mechanism to be provided yet does not compromise on the packing density provided by the system as a whole. Furthermore, it enables high speed retrieval of containers and therefore simple integration of the system as a whole as part of a larger automated process.

CLAIMS

1. A storage and retrieval system comprising:
at least one storage tray comprising plural storage
holes;

at least one gas supply port ; and

5 a gas supply manifold for supplying, in use,
pressurised gas to the at least one gas supply port;
wherein

10 the tray is arranged such that it can be moved with
respect to the manifold in order to align a selected
storage hole in the tray with the port such that, in use,
pressurised gas can be applied to the selected hole via the
port in order to allow controlled movement of a container
stored in the selected hole to a position in which it can
be retrieved from the tray.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the gas supply
paort is configured such that the pressurised gas raises
the container in use.

3. A system according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein each
hole has retaining member for retaining a container
therein.

4. A system according to any preceding claim, in which
there are provided plural trays, one arranged above
another.

5. A system according to claim 4, wherein each tray has
at least one through port therein in order to allow a
container to pass through the tray when the through port is
aligned with a manifold port.

6. A system according to any preceding claim, in which
the manifold has plural ports formed therein.

AMENDED SHEET,

6

7. A system according to any preceding claim, in which the trays are circular in shape.

8. A system according to any preceding claim, in which the trays are rotatable with respect to the manifold.

9. A system according to any preceding claim, further comprising means for controlling, in use, the pressure of gas supplied through the manifold in order to control the velocity or position of a selected container during retrieval and/or insertion.

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AMENDED SHEET

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



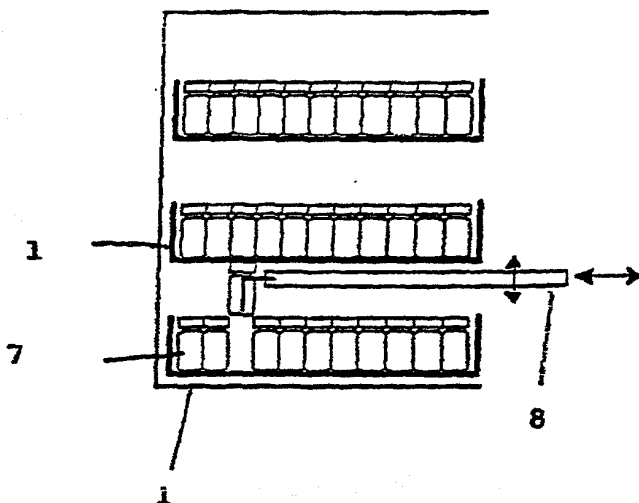
(43) International Publication Date
25 January 2001 (25.01.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/05687 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: B65G 1/04, 51/02
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/02483
- (22) International Filing Date: 26 June 2000 (26.06.2000)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
99305619.1 15 July 1999 (15.07.1999) EP
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP PLC [GB/GB]; Melbourn Science Park, Cambridge Road, Melbourn, Royston, Herts SG8 6EE (GB).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): BLENKINSOP, Philip, Thomas [GB/GB]; 56 Chapel Lane, Fowlmere, Royston, Herts SG8 7SD (GB).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— With international search report.
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

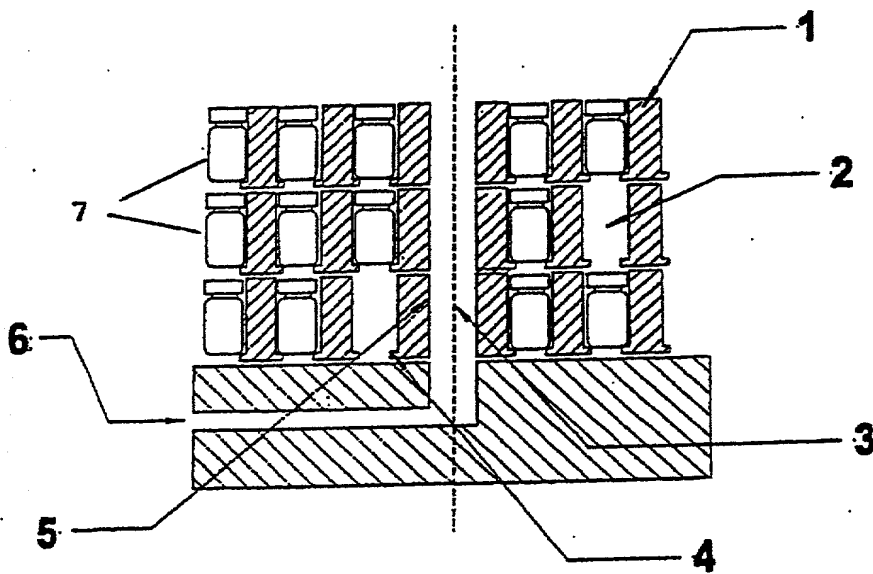
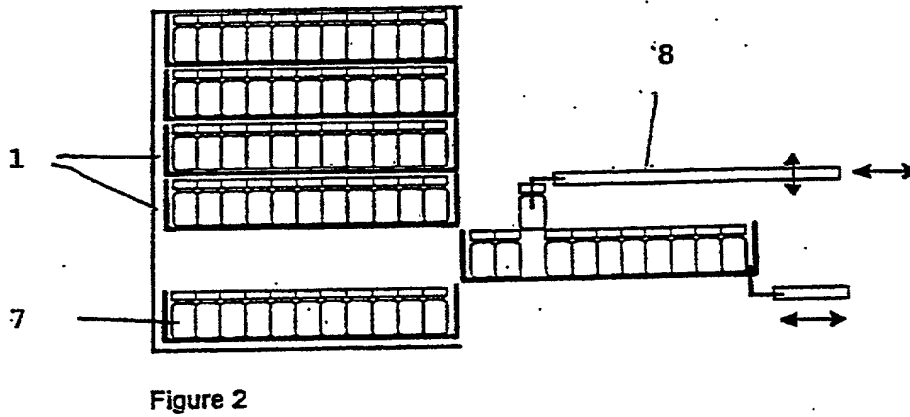
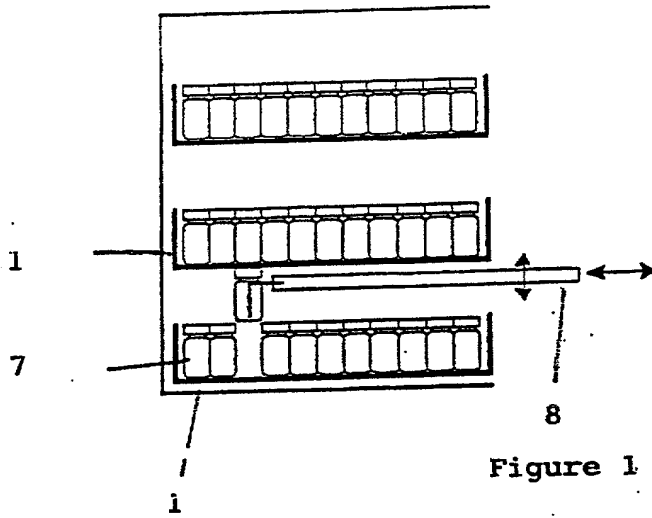
(54) Title: STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A storage and retrieval system comprises at least one storage tray comprising plural storage holes. A gas supply manifold for supplies, in use, pressurised gas to at least one gas supply port. The tray can be moved with respect to the manifold in order to align a selected storage hole in the tray with the port such that, in use, pressurised gas can be applied to the selected hole via the port in order to allow controlled movement of container stored in the selected hole to a position in which it can be retrieved from the tray.

WO 01/05687 A1

1/3



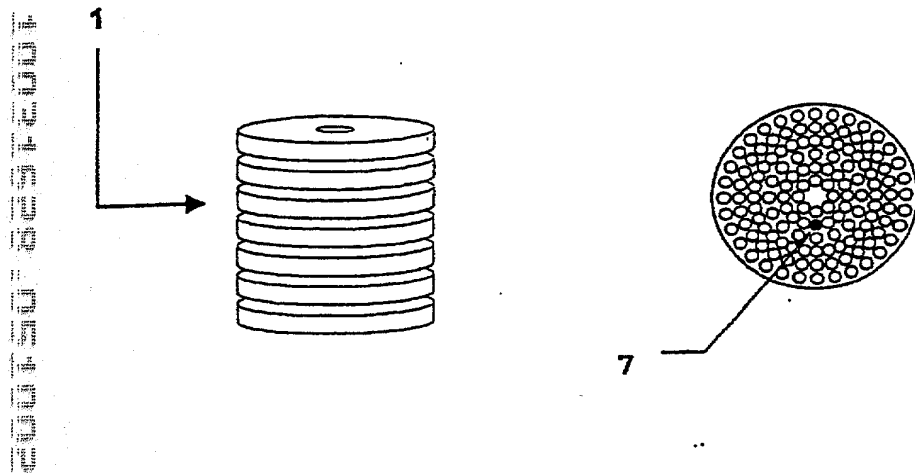


Figure 4

3/3

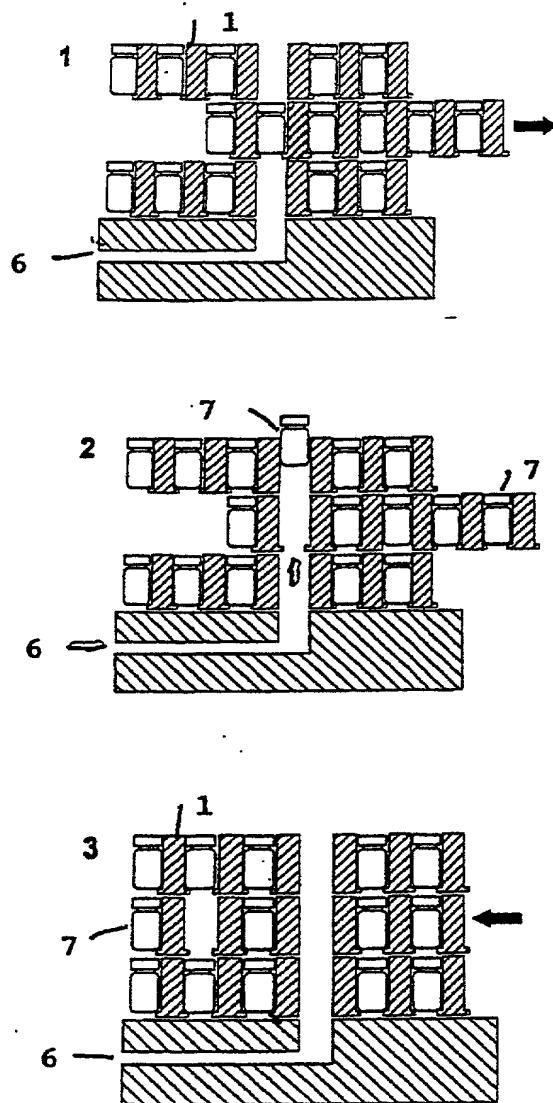


Figure 5

USA

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on an invention entitled
STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

the specification of which ☐ is attached hereto or

☒ was filed on 26 JUN 2000 as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number PCT/GB00/02483 and was amended on (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for a patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
99305619.1	EP	15 JUL 1999	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:
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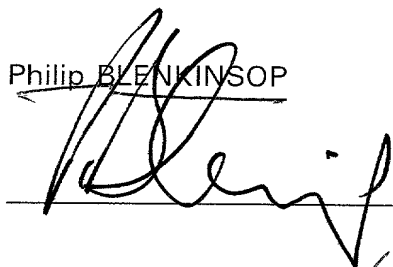
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardise the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

100
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